

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification by replacing the indicated paragraphs as follows:

First full paragraph page 3:

Two successive selective etching operations are then carried out on the structure firstly to remove the remaining part of the Si support substrate with an etching solution, such that the SiGe layer forms a stop layer, and then to remove the SiGe layer with an etching solution such that the Si film forms a stop layer. The resulting structure is an SeOI structure with a surface Si layer. This silicon layer is both very thin and very uniform through its thickness, and is provided using a process which can avoid a finishing step which would otherwise be prejudicial to the quality of the silicon layer. The main objective of this process is not, however, to produce an SeOI structure with a strained silicon layer. The SiGe layer used to produce the SeOI structure during implementation of this process has a typical thickness of between 0.01 and 0.2 microns, a thickness insufficient to fulfill the role of a buffer layer between the Si support substrate and a potential relaxed SiGe layer. The silicon of the film grown epitaxially on the SiGe layer and constituting the Si layer of the final SeOI structure therefore would be little strained or unstrained, and therefore does not achieve production of a structure comprising a strained Si layer so as to benefit from its useful electrical properties, especially in SeOI structures. Also, since the instruments for implanting species are very often limited to about 200 keV, the associated maximum implantation depths would correspond substantially to the minimum thickness of a reliable buffer layer, i.e., about one to two microns, which is insufficient to implant into the Si support substrate, so it would be difficult to use this process with an SiGe layer thick enough to contain both a buffer layer and a relaxed surface SiGe layer. More powerful implantation instruments require ~~an~~ an equipment infrastructure that would be very expensive and the operating costs could be prohibitive. This type of process therefore seems to be unsuitable for producing a structure comprising a strained Si layer.